

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TAGS: OEXC, PROP, UR
SUBJECT: SOVIETS REQUEST REMOVAL OF TWO "AGRICULTURE-USA"
GUIDES

REF: (A) MOSCOW 12691, (B) MOSCOW 11736

1. IN ADDITION TO TASS WIRE STATEMENTS ON LUPAN AND MASCHIOCCI, WHICH HAVE BEEN REPRINTED IN PART OR IN FULL BY SOME JUNE 6 MORNING NEWSPAPERS ("PRAVDA", "MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA"), MAIN SOVIET EVENING TELEVISION NEWS PROGRAM "VREMYA" DEVOTED ALMOST THREE MINUTES TO SUBJECT ON EVENING JUNE 5.

2. "VREMYA" SEGMENT ON GUIDES, WHICH BEGAN AT ROUGHLY 21:25 LOCAL TIME, STARTED OFF WITH ONE OF TWO ANCHOR-PERSONS READING SHORT TASS STATEMENT ON CASE NOTING MFA DEMAND THAT THE TWO LEAVE THE SOVIET UNION. SECOND ANNOUNCER THEN READ EXCERPT FROM LONGER TASS ITEM, WHICH ASSERTED THAT "THE EXHIBIT'S ORGANIZERS TRIED TO USE THEIR STAY IN KIEV FOR PROVOCATIVE (PODSTREKATEL'NYYE) ACTIVITIES, FOR SLANDERING THE SOVIET
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STATE AND SOCIAL SYSTEM." ANNOUNCER WENT ON TO STATE THAT LUPAN AND MASCHIOCCI HAD ENGAGED IN ANTI-SOVIET PROPAGANDA AND AGITATION. THESE PREFATORY REMARKS BY "VREMYA" ANNOUNCERS TOOK EXACTLY ONE MINUTE.

3. WITH INTRODUCTION THAT "THIS IS WHAT SEVERAL VISITORS TO THE EXHIBIT TOLD OUR CORRESPONDENT", ACTION SHIFTED

TO FILM FOOTAGE APPARENTLY SHOT IN KIEV'S VDNKH PARK (WHERE "AG-USA" WAS LOCATED). PERSON IDENTIFIED AS I.M. PAVLYUK, PROFESSION AGRONOMIST, SAID THAT WHILE HE HAD TRIED TO OBTAIN AGRICULTURAL INFORMATION, GUIDES WERE UNABLE TO ANSWER, WERE INCOMPETENT, WERE FROM "COMPLETELY DIFFERENT PROFESSIONS." PAVLYUK CONTINUED THAT "SOME GUIDES" ENGAGED IN SLANDEROUS STATEMENTS, WHICH DO NOT FOSTER GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN US AND USSR. PAVLYUK'S UTTERANCES CLOCKED IN UNCANNILY AT ONE MINUTE ON THE DOT. HE WAS FOLLOWED BY ANOTHER AGRONOMIST, BURESHCH, WHO REPEATED SAME GENERAL CHARGE, SAYING HE HAD BEEN AT EXHIBIT "SEVERAL TIMES" AND HAD HEARD "SIMILAR STATEMENTS". HE SAID HE WAS PARTICULARLY DISPLEASED WITH WAY "YOUNG PEOPLE" MADE ACCUSATIONS "DIRECTED AGAINST OUR GOVERNMENT, OUR PARTY, AND THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF OUR SYSTEM." BURESHCH WAS ON CAMERA FOR THIRTY SECONDS. NEITHER HE NOR PAVLYUK MENTIONED LUPAN OR MASCHIOCCI BY NAME. THEIR COMMENTS ONLY REFERRED TO "GUIDES", "EXHIBIT EMPLOYEES", OR OTHER GENERAL APPELLATIONS OF THAT SORT. NEITHER PAVLYUK NOR BURESHCH WERE SIGNERS OF LETTERS IN MAY 25 "PRAVDA UKRAINY" (REF B).

4. FINAL TWENTY SECONDS OF TELECAST REVERTED TO SECOND OF TWO "VREMYA" ANNOUNCERS, WHO AGAIN READ FROM CONCLUDING PARAGRAPH OF LONGER TASS TREATMENT TO EFFECT THAT "OPENLY HOSTILE ACTIVITY" OF EXHIBIT PERSONNEL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SHOWS THAT SOMEONE IN U.S. ("KOYE-KTO ZA OKEANOM", WHICH HAS SINISTER RING IN RUSSIAN) IS USING CULTURAL EXCHANGES FOR PURPOSES CONTRARY TO IMPROVING U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS.

5. MASCHIOCCI, ON BETWEEN-CITIES TRAVEL, ARRIVED IN MURMANSK EVENING OF JUNE 5. EMBASSY CONTACTED EXHIBIT DEPUTY DIRECTOR ROBERTSON IN SAME CITY, WHO MET MASCHIOCCI ON ARRIVAL AND MADE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS FOR LATTER TO PROCEED ON TO MOSCOW JUNE 6, TO ARRIVE MOSCOW 15:20 LOCAL TIME. HE WILL SPEND NIGHT IN APARTMENT OF AMERICAN STAFFER AND WILL DEPART USSR JUNE 7 ON REGULAR WEDNESDAY PAN-AM FLIGHT.

6. COMMENT: IN RECONSTRUCTING SEQUENCE OF EVENTS, WE HAVE REACHED CONCLUSION THAT SOVIETS, FOLLOWING EXHIBIT DIRECTOR'S FORMAL RESPONSE TO SOVIETS' MAY 18 INITIAL DEMARCHE (REF B), MADE DELIBERATE DECISION TO LIE LOW UNTIL EXHIBIT HAD RUN ITS COURSE IN KIEV. INDEED, SOVIETS ARE FULLY AWARE THAT LUPAN LEFT THE USSR A WEEK AGO. OUR IMPRESSION OF CONSCIOUS ORDERING OF SOVIET CAMPAIGN IS REINFORCED BY KNOWLEDGE PICKED UP TODAY THAT "VREMYA" FILM CREW VISITED EXHIBIT MAY

22 OSTENSIBLY TO DO FILM SEGMENT ON EXHIBIT WHICH WAS NEVER AIRED. ALTHOUGH IMPOSSIBLE TO CONFIRM, SOVIETS PROBABLY FILMED INTERVIEWS WITH PAVLYUK AND BURESHCH AT THAT TIME AND PUT THEM IN CAN FOR LATER USE. PRESUMABLY, WITH EXHIBIT STAFF DISPERSED, LUPAN ALREADY OUT OF THE COUNTRY, AND EXHIBIT IN CONTAINERS SOMEWHERE BETWEEN KIEV AND TSELINOGRAD, SOVIETS FIGURED THIS WAS OPTIMUM MOMENT TO ACHIEVE MAXIMUM EFFECT WITH MINIMUM DAMAGE TO HIGHLY-VISIBLE EXHIBIT OPERATION.

7. WITH DEPARTMENT'S CONCURRENCE, WE WILL GO BACK TO MFA WITH RESPONSE ALONG LINES PARA 4 REF A ONCE MASCHIOCCI HAS DEPARTED MOSCOW. MATLOCK

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